



Illinois Department of Transportation

Memorandum

To: Christine M. Reed Attn: Timothy S. Jackson
From: Charles J. Ingersoll By: Thomas C. Brooks
Subject: Wetland Compensation Monitoring* *Thomas C. Brooks*
Date: January 23, 2009 *(ms)*

*Green Creek Wetland Mitigation Site
FAP 774 (IL 33)
Effingham County
Compensation for US 45 in Clay County
BDE Seq. No. 10469

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers Tracking No.: 200600040-gjd

Attached is the second of five annual reports of the status of the compensatory wetland for the above captioned highway project. The report is for your file. Copies of the reports are being coordinated with the Corps and Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) as required by permit conditions and in accordance with our Wetland Action Plan.

Two project goals have been established for this compensation site. Goal 1 states that the entire mitigation site will meet the criteria of a jurisdictional wetland and reach the calculated mitigation acreage by the end of five years of monitoring. Criteria for this goal include a predominance of hydrophytic vegetation, presence of wetland hydrology and occurrence of hydric soils. Goal 2 states a floodplain forest will be established in the mitigation site. Criteria for this goal include an 80% survivability rate of trees after 5 years and a dominance of woody vegetation.

Dominant hydrophytic vegetation was present across the whole restoration area and almost the entire restoration area was found to meet hydrology for the growing season. The site has been excavated and the resultant soils appear to be hydric to the surface across the entire restoration area. With continued hydrology, these hydric soils will continue to develop.

Out of the 89 trees at the site, 70 were found to be alive. However, only 85 trees were required to be planted so the survivorship (based on 85 trees) is 82%. Tree replacements may be required in the future years to maintain the 80% survivability rate.

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Johnsongrass is still a species of concern which has taken up inhabitation at the site. Since this species is rhizomatous, it could spread quickly throughout the site during a dry year. Possible control methods have been suggested in the "Discussion" portion of this report.

If there are any questions or comments concerning this report, please contact Matthew Sunderland at (217) 557-9035.

Attachment

cc: George Delancey – Corps
Steve Hamer – IDNR

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